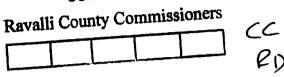
Michael and Theresa Moran 158 Ricketts Road Hamilton, MT 59840 October 24, 2007

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David Ohnstad Road Supervisor 244 Fairgrounds Road Hamilton, MT 59840



Dear Mr. Ohnstad:

The purpose of this letter is to alert the county to what we perceive is an increasingly hazardous traffic situation on Ricketts Road and to request that a representative from the road department come and make some assessment as to how this situation might be improved.

We reside at 158 Ricketts Road, which is approximately 150 yards east of the Hamilton Playhouse where Ricketts Road takes a sharp right-angle bend from an east/west to a north/south direction. We have lived in this location for 21 years. Over the years it has not been unusual for an occasional motorist to misjudge this turn and end up going off the road into either our property or that of our neighbor to the west (Gary Wiley). In recent years there has been an alarming increase in the frequency and the severity of these occurrences. In the past two years we know of at least two vehicles that have been "totaled" on this corner. Despite changing the position, our mailbox has been hit repeatedly. Two serious crashes have occurred into the entrance to our driveway resulting in over five thousand dollars in damage to our property. Several additional "near misses" have occurred and the telephone box on this corner has been repeatedly demolished. You may wish to contact the telephone company regarding the frequency of the latter occurrence. We believe that this situation is directly related to an increase in both volume and speed of traffic through this area. We also believe that this hazardous situation carries with it a high potential for serious injury or fatality to motorists who miss this turn and leave the roadway. In the most recent crash involving a "totaled" vehicle, the air bag deployed. Without this protection the driver would likely have been seriously injured.

As winter is fast approaching, we would request that the county road department address this situation in the near future and use their experience and judgment to decide how best to improve the safety of this dangerous corner. We thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Michael and Theresa Moran

Cc: County Commissioners Cc: County Attorney

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